

The *Ripple*

Expanding the Circle of SC Women of the ELCA

Check out our **website** for up-to-date information and pictures.
Go to **<http://www.scwelca.com>**.

Published by SC Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)



Winter 2019



South Carolina Women of the ELCA 2019 CONVENTION JUNE 7 & 8, 2019



ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH LEXINGTON, SC

**CHAPLAIN FOR THE SC WELCA
CONVENTION**

**THE REVEREND GINGER LITMAN-KOON
ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC**



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Ah, the beginning of a New Year with renewed expectations and, if you are like me, with broken resolutions. I must confess I am not good at keeping resolutions, primarily because I set unrealistic goals for myself. So this year, I resolve to begin each day in prayer, asking to be filled with God's Holy Spirit so that throughout my day I might bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in service to others, growing in faith and living as a disciple of Christ. Talk about some high expectations! Through God's grace, we can share these gifts.

This year we will share our blessings with **Lighthouse for Life**. The core values of the organization are grace, integrity, community, thankfulness, and generosity. SC WELCA is honored to support an organization whose values are in line with ours. Their residential home, Karis Home, embraces a trauma-informed approach to address the individual needs of survivors of sex trafficking.

This issue of *The Ripple* is filled with information about our annual convention. We are excited about the opportunities for growth, fellowship, and learning. We have assembled an amazing staff, a variety of workshops, and spiritually uplifting entertainment.

I hope you are prayerfully considering young women and first timer guests your congregational unit might nominate, as well as people you might nominate for Board, Secretary, and/or Voting Members for the Triennial Convention. Speaking of the elections, please note the formal opening will begin at 11 a.m. on Friday. This will allow extra time needed to elect Triennial Convention Voting Members. Please keep this issue of *The Ripple* handy because it contains several forms we hope you will use.

For the New Year, maybe we could invite the Holy Spirit into our lives. Maybe we would speak out more passionately for peace and justice in our world. Maybe we would act and advocate more actively to end human trafficking. Maybe we would truly love and serve our neighbors as ourselves. Maybe, through grace, we would do all of these things.

Together in Christ,
Becky



Spring Conference Meetings



CONFERENCE	DATE AND TIME	HOST CHURCH
#1 Foothills	Saturday, March 16, 10:00 a.m.	St. Michael's, Greenville
#2 Upstate	No Meeting	
#3 Epiphany	No Meeting	
#4 Amelia	No Meeting	
#5 Heartland	Sunday, April 28, 3:00 p.m.	Summer Memorial, Newberry
#6 Midlands	No Meeting	
#7 Coastal	Saturday, March 23, 11:00 p.m.	St. Luke's, Summerville
#8 Saxe-Gotha	Sunday, March 17, 3:00 p.m.	Mt. Hermon, W Columbia
#9 Western	Sunday, March 17, 3 00 p.m.	St. Paul's, Gilbert



VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As your Vice President, I am pleased to be your convention chair. By now you should have heard about our 2019 convention being held at St. Stephen's in Lexington, SC on June 7-8, 2019. The THEME this year is "Grace in Community" which combines two key elements of our organization. Grace is the foundation of our Lutheran heritage, and it is in community that we seek to live out our mission and purpose. The scripture comes from Hebrews 4:16 "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need". The scripture along with a beautiful new hymn, "Grace Alone", helps to focus our theme and also brings our focus to this year's project.

Our PROJECT this year will be two-part. The local portion will be focused on helping victims of human trafficking by asking congregations to create Freedom Bags that will be distributed throughout South Carolina as needed by Lighthouse for Life, a non-profit organization that provides education and training related to human trafficking. Our monetary donations will also support their ministry to sexual trafficking victims. Our convention's global project will be writing "Thinking of You/Thank You for Your Service" cards for our active duty military personnel. More on these projects can be found in the Action Committee's report.

Please find the convention REGISTRATION form and the workshop write-ups included in this *Ripple*. Also included are nomination forms for election of Board and Triennial Voting Members, and sponsorship of Young Women and First Timer Guests. Please consider running for the board, either as a board member or as secretary and think of inviting a young woman or a first time guest to convention. This is how we grow as a community, one person at a time. If you are unsure if running for board is the right decision, please reach out to a board member or officer with questions. We work hard to serve God and we have fun serving you as your SC WELCA Board.

The CONVENTION STAFF is busy planning. Our host conference coordinator, Emily Wright, and I are ready to sign up volunteers. We have plenty of opportunities to help so if you are in the Midlands Conference and you have not been notified and would like to take part in our convention, please contact Emily Wright at (803 479-5271 and/or free2gogma@yahoo.com) or me so we can get you involved.

2019 Convention Staff

Chair: Mary Soltis

Assistant Registrar: Kaye Heins

Pianist: Kathleen Cartledge

Technology Coordinator: Pat George

Mission Action Chair: Sarah Cheesman

Young Women Guests Coordinator: Denise Warren

Midlands Conference Coord: Emily Wright

Organist: Matt McCall

Registrar: Sherry Sheppard

Song Leader: Sara Coffman

Parliamentarian: Carolyn Torrence

Host Church Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Patrick W. Riddle

First Timer Guests Coordinator: Dianne Pitts

Photographer: Amanda Cruse

Nominating Committee Chair: Julie Watson

Convention Chaplain: The Rev. Ginger Litman-Koon

Your Sister in Christ, Mary Soltis

TREASURER'S REPORT



A preliminary review of our February 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019 financial year is as follows:

1. Regular Offerings of \$24,988 have been received (69% of the budgeted amount of \$36,000). 65% of our Regular Offerings are sent to churchwide.
2. Joy Offerings of \$8,681 have been received (62% of the budgeted amount of \$14,000). 100% of these offerings are sent to support ELCA Good Gifts.
3. Designated gifts for Katie's Fund and Thank Offerings of \$415 have been received (35% of the budgeted amount of \$1,200) and forwarded to churchwide.
4. Special Offerings for Hurricane relief in SC and the US totaled \$891.
5. Conference donations of \$5,551 have been sent to SC charities.
6. 2018 Convention offering was \$5,298 compared to the budgeted amount of \$5,000 and monetary donations to the convention projects totaled \$18,750.
7. In total, budgeted expenses are at 99% of budget.
8. Net income from the Edna Corley Estate and Honorary and Life Memberships for SCLTSS Scholarship is \$1,896.

In summary, while Regular Offerings and Joy Offerings are about \$16,500 below budgeted amounts, monetary gifts to the 2018 convention projects was \$18,750, designated gifts to CWO plus special offerings for hurricane relief exceeded the budgeted amount for designated gifts by \$100, and total Conference support to local projects/programs was \$4,971. Thus, in total, support for SC WELCA programs/projects exceeded our expectations for this year.

Thank you! May we continue to be able to be a blessing to others.

Rachel Quesada



SECRETARY'S REPORT



The SC WELCA Board met on Saturday, November 10, 2018 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Lexington.

Highlights from the meeting:

Becky expressed her appreciation for all who attended the fall meetings which were highlighted in the Fall Ripple along with spring meeting dates.

From the Treasurer's Report: Actual and Budget Receipts and Disbursements show Budgeted Receipts - \$62,783.67, Non- Budgeted receipts - \$7,969.51, Budgeted Disbursements- \$59,507.40, Non-Budgeted Disbursements - \$7,302.75 with an Ending Balance of \$34,709.72. The board voted to send Benevolence balance of \$3,500 as follows: ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response for California Fires - \$875 and Florence Hurricane Relief efforts -\$875, Phoebe Hospital in Curran, Liberia - \$875, ELCA Good Gifts (International Emergency – Feed 8 refugee families for a month — \$800, Refugee Welcome Supplies for a week -\$55, 2 blankets - \$20.)

VP Mary Soltis gave a progress update for the 2019 convention. The Board reviewed the 2019 SWO Convention Staff, proposed workshops, projects, entertainment, lodging, and prospective vendors.

There were 650 copies of the latest Ripple emailed. As of November 10, 2019, the number and percentage of links opened to view and/or download issues of the Ripple were: Fall *Ripple* - 47 %, and 57.5 percent for the 2018 Spring *Ripple*.

Mission Action: The non-profit agency, Lighthouse for Life, 7320 Broad River Rd, Suite K#247, Irmo SC 29063, was approved by the board with an email vote on August 17, 2018 . The convention project is supporting Lighthouse for Life with Freedom Backpacks which contain personal hygiene items, wrapped candies/gum, water bottles, a Bible, and clothing items. The global project activity is signing and sending 500 "Thinking of You/Thank you for your service" cards to active duty military personnel.

Mission Community: Total attendance for the nine conference meetings was 336 and \$3,676 in donations to the following ministries: Dream Center, Foothills; Hope of Lancaster, Upstate; SC Hurricane Relief, Epiphany; Hebron Grace Home Amelia; Newberry Free Medical Clinic, Heartland; Lutheran Hurricane Relief, Midlands: Water Mission, Coastal; Patsy Amick (Speaker) and Flood Relief, Saxe-Gotha; I Care, Western. Honoring the military will be done by displaying pictures of veterans/active duty military on the mural and sending "Thank You for Your Service" cards.

Mission Growth: The Camp Kinard retreat will be held February 8-9, 2019, beginning with dinner at 6PM Friday and ending after lunch on Saturday. The video, *How Lutherans Interpret the Bible* by The Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell with Linda Roland (Lord of Life, Bluffton) leading follow-up discussions. The Isle of Palms retreat (April 26-28, 2019) Bible study presenter will be Ada Arthur.

Triennial Stipends - \$200 for 10 registered applicants for a total of \$2000 was approved by the board for the 2020 Triennial In Phoenix, AZ. The board also approved the process to award the stipends to registered applicants on a first call, first serve basis.

SC WELCA Goals for 2018-2019 were reviewed and approved by the Board and will be posted on the website.

These minutes, once approved by the board, will be posted on the SC WELCA website.

REMINDER: Please send your congregation unit leader/officer updates to either my email or home address which are listed on the Synodical Board Roster found in this issue.

Respectfully submitted,
Elsa Hope, Secretary



COMMUNITY

Two of the goals of Mission Community are to promote WELCA Day/Bold Women's Sunday and the World Day of Prayer. We encourage all congregations to participate in Bold Women's Sunday on February 24, 2019. World Day of Prayer this year is March 1, 2019. World Day of Prayer is a worldwide, ecumenical movement of women of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each first Friday of March. This year's theme is "Come-Everything is Ready." Come to praise, thank and proclaim the kingdom of love. The Bible verse for this year's study is Luke 14:15-24. So ask yourself and your congregation; Are you ready to praise Him? Are you ready to thank Him? Are you ready to proclaim the kingdom of God's love?

Your sisters in Christ,
Amanda Boatwright (Chair)
Gwen Furcron
Kristin Snelgrove
Karen Freeman (Facebook)
Sherry Fowler (Ripple Editor)

MURAL PROJECT AT CONVENTION

We will be honoring those who have served or are currently serving in our Armed Forces with a mural display of their photos. We invite you to send us a picture of your loved one and if you are a veteran, we want your photo as well. They can be in uniform or civilian attire. All branches of service are included: Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, and Navy.

Please complete the following information for each photo:

Service member name & relationship: _____

Rank/Branch of service: _____

Time of service: _____

Submitted by/Conference: _____

Relationship of Service Member: _____

Mail/email photo and information to:
Amanda Boatwright
423 Martin Drive
Leesville SC 29070
Msangelwingschurchchick@yahoo.com

GROWTH

Mission Growth is a ministry that deals with our relationship with God. We are committed to continue to grow in our faith and in our sisterhood with activities that promote such outcomes.

The annual Camp Kinard retreat, scheduled for February 8-9, 2019, is a time of fellowship and learning. Viewing and follow-up discussion of the video, *How Lutherans Interpret the Bible*, by Dr. Mark Allan Powell, will be led by Linda Roland (Lord of Life, Bluffton).

The Isle of Palms retreat is scheduled for April 26-28, 2019, with Ada Arthur as the retreat speaker. A registration form is included on page 12 in this issue of *The Ripple*.

Also, women are encouraged to participate in the Wild Women Weekends at Lutheridge.

Another special event that is fast approaching is the WELCA Triennial Convention (July 14-16, 2020) and Gathering (July 16-19, 2020) in Phoenix, Arizona.

Two other goals of the committee are to provide information that encourages the building of relationships between generations through mentoring and to promote and support ELCA church-wide efforts to address natural disasters, human trafficking, domestic violence, and hunger.

Thanks to everyone who helps to support these activities.

In Christ,

Dianne Lomnick, Merri Lewis, Agnes Folk and Sallie Folk



OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.”

ACTION

Greetings to all from your **Mission Action Committee!** We are looking forward to the upcoming 32nd Annual Convention of the SC Women of the ELCA, June 7-8, 2019. We hope that you will plan to attend and to respond to our message of “Grace in Community” through our convention projects!

2019 Convention Project: Human trafficking is a public safety, health and human rights violation. It is the “buying/selling or trade of human beings ... It is modern-day slavery”. We are partnering with Lighthouse for Life to provide education to others as well as take action to support the victims of human trafficking. Lighthouse for Life, established in 2014, is seeking steps to fight sex trafficking all over our state. They will be presenting at our upcoming 2019 convention.



SC WELCA can support Lighthouse for Life by participating in creating “Freedom Bags” that are given to the girls who are victims of sex trafficking throughout our state. Please see the items needed below to create these bags (**attach the form to each bag denoting that all of the content is there**). The backpacks help the girls as they are rescued with literally nothing but the clothes on their backs.

We can also support Lighthouse for Life financially by gifts that can be used to support the safe house and other items that the girls might need as they learn to recover and become empowered to be free. Checks are to be made to SC WELCA and we will then provide one amazing gift to Lighthouse for Life. Gift cards can be provided to restock the safe house, help buy groceries and other needed items. For more information about Lighthouse for Life, visit their website, lighthouseforlife.org or call them at (803)669-0110.

2019 Convention Global Project

During convention, we will honor our military personnel by creating “Thinking of You” and “Thank You for Your Service” cards to send to our active duty military. If you have any of these types of cards, please bring to convention and we will add them to ours! Let’s show our love to our military heroes who protect us every day! “Grace in Community” can and will be far reaching as we bestow our love upon people in need throughout SC and the world.

Honorary Life and Memorial Recognition Program

Another way to show “Grace in Community” is to support the Honorary Life and Memorial Recognition Program. You may honor women, men, or a young person in your congregation who is always there when needed. The recipient will receive a certificate and a pin. Memorial recognition may be made in memory of someone who has died and who had a positive impact on you or your church during their lifetime. Proceeds go to the South Carolina Women of the ELCA Scholarship Fund at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. An application is on the WELCA website or contact Virginia Herlong, 813 Silver Point Road, Chapin, SC 29036; email: vherlong@sc.rr.com; or phone 803-932-0155 (home) or 803-206-2493 (cell).

Thank you in advance for your support. See you at convention.

Action Committee:

Sarah D. Cheesman, Chair

Mary Soltis, Convention Chair,

Amanda Sease-Baker, Rae Davis, Kristen Snelgrove Board Members

Emily Wright, Host Conference Coordinator,

Virginia Herlong, Honorary/Life Memberships



SC WELCA 2019 Convention Project



The theme for this year's convention is "Grace in Community" and we have chosen several ways to show our grace to others in SC, specifically women/girls who have been rescued from human trafficking.

We will be supporting Lighthouse for Life with gift cards that will be used to restock the safe house or grocery shop or to let the girls shop for more clothes. Monetary gifts will be used to support their goal of providing grace and restoration to victims being rescued from trafficking.

We will also be creating "Freedom Bags" that are used as a starter kit that the victim can carry with them to a safe place!

✂ =====

Convention Checklist:

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO ACTION COMMITTEE AT CONVENTION

Church _____ Address _____

Conference _____ Contact/Phone# _____

Number of Complete "Freedom Bags" _____

Gift Cards (Walmart, Target, Mastercard, and/or Visa): \$ _____

Checks: Make payable to SC WELCA: \$ _____

✂ =====

SC WELCA 2019 Project Checklist

**PLEASE ATTACH THIS FORM TO THE FRONT OF EACH
FREEDOM BAG**

"Freedom Bag" (Use new small/medium backpack, no logos, bags with zippers are best). All items must be new and only these items! Each bag should have every item listed below. Please check each item so we will know the bag is complete.

Please no other items for safety reasons. Thanks!

Clothing – medium size 1 each	Toiletries 1 each	Other 1 each
<input type="checkbox"/> Athletic pants	<input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo	<input type="checkbox"/> Refillable water bottle
<input type="checkbox"/> Solid colored T-shirt (no logos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible
<input type="checkbox"/> Pair Socks	<input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste	<input type="checkbox"/> Pack of Gum
	<input type="checkbox"/> Body Wash	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Body Pouf	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Towel	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant (no roll-ons)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hair Brush and/or Comb	



2019 SC Women of the ELCA Convention

Convention Schedule

Friday, June 7

8:30 a.m.	Registration begins
9:30 a.m.	Pre-Convention workshops
11 a.m.	Formal Opening of Convention
Noon	Lunch
1 p.m.	Convention Reconvenes
6:30 p.m.	Banquet

Saturday, June 8

9:00 a.m.	Reconvene
Noon	Lunch
3 p.m.	Closing Worship

CHAPLAIN



Rev. Ginger Litman-Koon serves as pastor at All Saints Lutheran in Mt. Pleasant, SC, with her husband, Rev. Kris Litman-Koon. Along with their twin daughters, Stella and Virginia (age 2), they returned to the Lowcountry, her childhood home, in 2017.

Pastor Ginger is a graduate of Southern Seminary, and she previously served as the associate pastor at Mt. Horeb in Chapin and as the pastoral intern at Redeemer, Columbia. She currently serves on the synod Global Missions team as a liaison to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Colombia, the Inclusiveness Network, and on the board of the Journey Missionary Performing Arts Ministry. Her ministry focuses are young adult ministry, global mission, and cross-cultural ministry. When she is not in the pulpit, Pastor Ginger enjoys oil painting, playing soccer, and yoga.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Jen Thompson is the Executive Director at Lighthouse for Life and a two time National Board-Certified Teacher. She brings more than 20 years of experience in Training, Communication, and Education to Lighthouse for Life. Specializing in public education and coaching, Jen helps individuals, groups, and organizations increase their awareness and education about Human Trafficking. For the past three years, Jen has served as the Executive Director for Lighthouse for Life. She is also the Master Trainer for L4L and has spoken to over 16,000 people throughout the state of South Carolina in hopes to raise awareness and eradicate Human Trafficking.

Jen's background is one of education, communication, and leadership. Her academic credentials include a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of South Carolina, Teachers Certification from USC - Upstate and a Bachelor's degree in Mass Communication from North Greenville University.

CONVENTION MUSICIAN



Kathleen Cartledge is a Deacon and Director of Music and Liturgist at St Paul Lutheran in Aiken, SC. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Music from Augusta University and a Masters of Art in Religion, Theology Track from LTSS in Columbia, SC. Kathleen has worked in the Aiken/Augusta area as organist, pianist, and choral/instrumental conductor for over 30 years; has been a Children's Choir Instructor, steered the Westobou Arts Festival Organ Series for 5 years, and is a past Dean of the American Guild of Organists, and a Past President of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, Region 2. She performs as organist, pianist and accompanist in recitals and concerts throughout the CSRA, composes music, writes and preaches, and leads choral workshops and retreats for singers. Kathleen loves all styles and genres of music and looks forward to working with Sara on music for the convention.



Nominating Committee

HELP NEEDED

Yes, your help is needed to complete the nominations for WELCA board and Triennial voting members. We are fortunate to have 2 candidates for the position of secretary and 1 for Triennial voting member, but we still need nominees for Board and more Triennial voting members.

We are all aware of the goals to which we strive to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action and promote healing and wholeness. Serving in one of these capacities is an excellent way to move toward fulfilling these goals.

The synodical board partners with units to build community to fulfill the purpose of the Women of the ELCA with the 4 board meetings held throughout the year. The focus of the board meetings is to provide opportunities and experiences for learning and leadership development, joint ministry, stewardship and action, and convention planning. Board members attend conference gatherings. The requirements for nomination are participation in a congregational unit of the ELCA and the willingness to serve a 2-year term.

We will also be selecting 4 voting members to represent our state at Triennial Convention in Phoenix, AZ on July 14-16, 2020. All travel and lodging for those 4 members and our president are covered by churchwide WELCA.

Ladies, our organization is only as effective as our leadership, so it is vital that we have good candidates to fill necessary positions. Please prayerfully consider allowing your name to be put into nomination. If you do not feel led to serve, please identify someone whom you feel would make a good board member or Triennial voting member and offer to put her name into nomination.

Nomination forms are available in this publication of *The Ripple* or by visiting our website. Forms may also be obtained from one of the following nominating committee members who are happy to answer any questions which might arise:

Julie Watson, Chair, 864-357-6748; jjrwatson@charter.net

Cecelia Dunlap, 803-269-2940; victoriandork1949@hotmail.com

Paulette Miller, 540-400-5785; paulettemiller068@gmail.com

Brenda Byrd, 803-422-3326; bbyrd8@bellsouth.net

First Timer Guests

Happy New Year! A new beginning with new opportunities!

Grab the potential of this year for your WELCA and for your church. Offer this experience to a woman in your congregation who has not had the opportunity to experience the wider circle of church women. Empower a First Timer Guest to become stronger in faith and fellowship at the SC WELCA Convention in June at St. Stephen's in Lexington. It is a chance to expand knowledge, laugh with new friends, enjoy entertainment, and reflect prayerfully on current concerns around the world and in South Carolina. The nomination form is in this publication of *The Ripple*.



Dianne Pitts, First Timer Guests Coordinator



CONVENTION WORKSHOPS



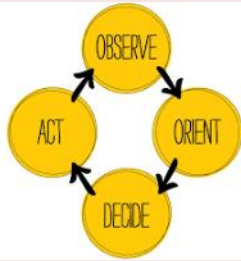
Craft/Service Project: Make a no-sew fleece blanket for Lighthouse for Life to use in their safe houses and during therapy sessions. This workshop will utilize Thrivent Action Team dollars! For information on how your church can help before Convention please contact Mary Soltis.

9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m.



Lighthouse for Life: Jen Thompson - Learn more about human trafficking and how to detect, prevent, and protect our communities.

9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m.



Situational Awareness: Join one of Lexington County's finest in learning how to be aware of your immediate surroundings in case of emergency. Learn the impact of your or other's actions as it relates to the well-being of yourself and those around you.

9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m.

Yoga: This is an interactive workshop that combines standing yoga as well as chair yoga with the added benefit of readings of the Mystics.

9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m.



Grace & Gratitude: Dallas Shealy - Want to increase your happiness level by 25%? Scientific studies have shown that people who practice gratitude live happier and healthier lives. Learn more about experiencing God's grace by having an "attitude of gratitude" in this interactive workshop.

9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m.

Sign Language: Learn about the history and development of the American Sign Language as well as learn some basic sign language. **9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m.**



CWO Representative: TBA - Please join our Churchwide Representative for a Bible Study and a time of sharing. She will bring updates from the Chicago office and will have time for a question and answer session.

FRIDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT



We are excited to have The Journey Missionary Performing Arts Ministry as our entertainment for our banquet on Friday night. Pastor Jackie Utley will be one of the four performers who will be portraying women of the Bible. Details will be included in the Spring Ripple.



Registration Form for IOP Retreat

Isle of Palms Retreat

April 26-28, 2019

Name: _____

Please Print

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Home Church: _____

Roommates: _____

(2 to 4 ladies to a room)

Full Retreat: \$120.00 Day Timers: \$60.00

Amount Enclosed: _____

First time attendee: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Bed linens are included in the registration fee. Please bring your own towels. Please document any special needs you have (dietary or otherwise) below. If you have a specific need, please bring items to supplement what we serve. Please bring a favorite snack or dessert to share.

Please send this portion with your deposit. *Register Early. Space is limited. Only 10 rooms have 2 double beds. The others have a Queen and a set of bunks. One form per participant.*

*Please make checks payable to **Sallie Folk**,
422 West Pine Street, Florence, SC 29501

CONGREGATION CORNER

St. John's Lutheran, Walhalla

A few of the outreach activities of the last quarter of 2018 include: **Holy Smoke BBQ**- \$6,200 given to Lutheran Disaster Response — Hurricane Relief, **Oktoberfest booth** set up & take down by Men in Mission and baked goods by WELCA netted \$1,679 donated to Lutheran Disaster Response – Hurricane Relief, **Hurricane Relief supply donation**- 8 Flood Buckets and 67 personal care kits donated + \$3,000 individual donations, **Kimberly Hampton Blood Drive**- 20 donors, a **group for Widows/Widowers** has been organized. There are many other outreach activities completed or on-going by our four Circles and other committees of our congregation.

Bethlehem Lutheran, Irmo

During the 2018 year, the Bethlehem Lutheran Quilters met together once per month and made 50 full-sized quilts to donate to Epworth Children's Home. These stunning and beautiful quilts were crafted by devoted and talented ladies using various fabrics and lots of love. The quilts were blessed during the December 9th service.





SC Women of the ELCA Annual Convention

Theme: "Grace in Community"

June 7-8, 2019

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC

REGISTRATION FOR VOTING MEMBERS & VISITORS

____ This is my first SC WELCA Convention ____ I am between the ages of 18-35

Check one:

____ **Voting Member**

____ **Visitor**

Two voting members are allowed from each Congregational Unit.

All visitors are welcome!

Please complete one form per person

NAME _____ CHURCH _____
 ADDRESS _____ CHURCH CITY _____
 CITY, ST, ZIP _____ CONFERENCE _____
 PHONE (home) _____ PHONE (cell) _____
 EMAIL _____

Registration will be confirmed by email. If no email, confirmation will be made by phone.

WORKSHOPS: Most workshops will be held three times – once in the morning and twice in the afternoon.

I plan to attend the following workshops (required for planning purposes). *Please check no more than three.*

____ Lighthouse 4 Life ____ Grace and Gratitude ____ Sign Language
 ____ Churchwide Rep. Bible Study ____ Yoga/Chair Yoga
 ____ Craft/Service Project -Blankets ____ Situational Awareness

REGISTRATION:

Voting Member – \$35.00, after April 15, 2019 - \$40.00; **Visitor** – \$20.00 \$ _____
 (Bulletin of Reports for Voting Member and Visitor included) \$ _____

MEALS: Friday Lunch - \$9.00; Friday Banquet - \$22.00; Saturday Lunch - \$9.00 \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please circle meals requested. Dietary Restrictions: _____

Voting Member - Please submit registration by April 15, 2019 for convention planning

Visitor – Please submit registration by May 30, 2019 for meal counts

NO refunds after May 15, 2019

Make check payable to SC WELCA

Send this form with check to Convention Registrar:

Sherry Sheppard

128 S. Main St., Ste. 1, Summerville, SC 29483

For questions, contact Sherry at (843) 860-7998 or by email at anthradvnr12@gmail.com

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

Date Received _____ Check Date _____ Check # _____ Date Deposited _____



DEFINITIONS OF AND FEES DUE FOR VOTING MEMBERS AND VISITORS

Voting Member	Two from each Congregational Unit - Late substitution is allowed. Pay for mileage, meals, lodging and registration. Please submit registration by April 15, 2019 so that convention committees can be selected and the Bulletin of Reports prepared for print.
Visitor (non-voting)	Those attending the convention either not on the agenda or assigned a specific responsibility Pay for mileage, meals, lodging and registration. Please submit registration by May 29, 2019 for meal counts.

The Nomination Form for Young Woman Guest and First Timer Guest will serve as their registration.

Those on the agenda or assigned a specific responsibility will be contacted and registered by the Convention Chair, Mary Soltis. Such a person may also be a Congregational Unit voting member, in which case fees will be adjusted accordingly.

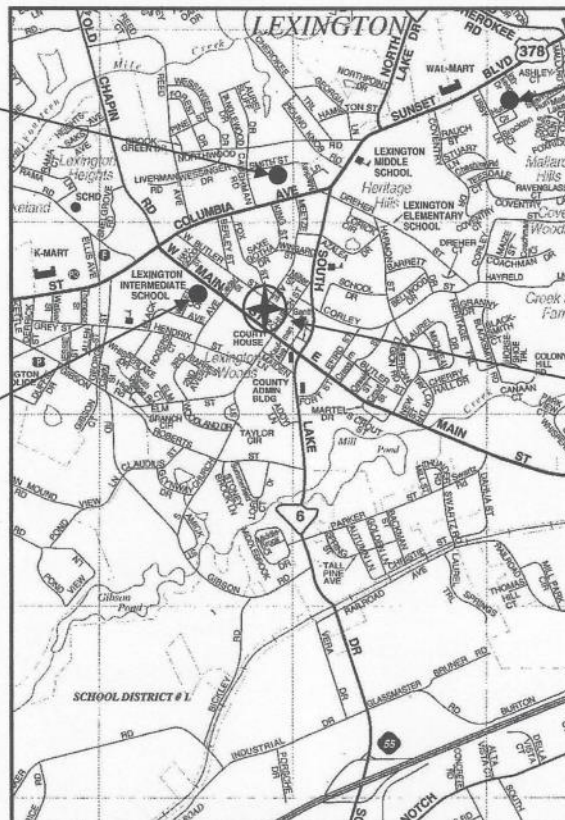
Registrations will officially close 9:00 am Saturday morning of the convention, June 8, 2019. However, please register as early as possible to assist us in convention planning.

LODGING AVAILABLE NEAR ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IN LEXINGTON

All have hot breakfast, free Wi-Fi, microwave, refrigerator, TV, 1 king or 2 queen bed(s). Suites include fold-out sofa.

Hampton Inn
Group Code: ELC
\$133 plus tax is a non-discounted rate but personal discounts may be applied; inside rooms, ½ mile from church
601 Columbia Ave.
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 356-8300
Must book by **May 7, 2019**

Comfort Suites
Group Code: RM31R9
\$109 plus tax
Inside suites w/ fold-out sofa
3 blocks from church
325 West Main St.
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 996-2000
Hotel of choice by Board because can sleep 3/room
Must book by **April 15, 2019**



Holiday Inn Express
Group Code: SCW
\$114 plus tax
Inside rooms
1 ½ miles from church
131 Innkeeper Dr.
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 808-0800
Must book by **May 7, 2019**

**St. Stephen's
Lutheran Church**
119 North Church St.
Lexington, SC 29072
803-359-6562

Blocks of rooms set aside for SC Women of the ELCA. **BOOK EARLY!!**
Rooms must be booked by dates shown to receive the quoted rate.



South Carolina Women of the ELCA Annual Convention

Theme: "Grace in Community"

June 7-8, 2019

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC

NOMINATION FOR ELECTION

Complete both sides of this form; include a "head shot" photo of nominee and return by March 31, 2019 to: Julie Watson, Nomination Chair, 134 McCarter Dr, Wellford, SC 29385, jjrwatson@charter.net, 864-357-6748.

Check all that apply:

☐ Board Member ☐ Secretary ☐ 2020 Triennial Voting Member

PLEASE PRINT or TYPE

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell or work) _____

Email _____

Occupation _____

Age Category ☐ 20-29 ☐ 30-39 ☐ 40-49 ☐ 50-59 ☐ 60 and over

Ethnic/Racial Heritage ☐ Asian ☐ African American ☐ Hispanic ☐ White ☐ Other

Primary Language _____

Home Congregation _____ Conference _____

Church Address _____

**Qualifications which would help this person in performing the duties
of the position for which she is being nominated**

Rev 11242018



Experiences that would help this person to serve in this position.

Beginning with most recent, list significant experiences in each area.

Women of the ELCA Congregational Unit (may include experience in previous church bodies)

SC Women of the ELCA, Conference, SWO, Churchwide (may include experience in previous church bodies)

ELCA Congregation, Conference, Synod, and Churchwide (may include experience in previous church bodies)

Ecumenical (include local, state, and national/international organizations/affiliations)

Other comments (Why do you think this person would be effective in this position?)

Submitter Information (*Nominations for 2020 Triennial voting member shall be made by the nominee's unit. No more than one person from a unit shall be nominated.*)

Name (print) _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell or work) _____

Email _____

Congregational Unit/City _____

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S.C. Women of the ELCA Annual Convention

Theme: "Grace in Community"

June 7-8, 2019

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC

NOMINATION FORM FOR SPONSORSHIP OF:

(Check only one) ☐ **YOUNG WOMAN GUEST** ☐ **FIRST TIMER GUEST**

To be completed by the Congregational Unit President.

Send no more than 2 nominations from your unit to your Conference Coordinator by April 10, 2019.

Nominee Information

Name _____ Age _____
(if Young Woman Guest)

Address _____

Telephone (home) _____ (cell) _____

Email _____

Home Congregation _____

City _____ Conference _____

Please give a brief summary of why this person would be a good choice.

Submitted by (Congregation Unit President) _____

Telephone _____ Email _____



GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATION OF YOUNG WOMAN GUEST / FIRST TIMER GUEST

Sponsored Young Woman Guest:

Any woman between the ages of 18 and 35 who has never attended a SC Women of the ELCA Convention is eligible for nomination. The Sponsored YWG will have her convention expenses (fee, lodging and meals) paid for by either the Synodical Board or Conference. She will be housed with the other Young Women Guests at the convention. She will be a non-voting member at the convention, will attend the Young Women Guests Orientation, and will be seated with the other Young Women Guests during the convention. It is hoped that the sponsored Young Woman Guest will return as a delegate to following years' conventions.

Sponsored First Timer Guest:

Any woman of any age who has never attended a SC Women of the ELCA Convention is eligible for nomination. The Sponsored First Timer Guest will have her convention expenses (fee, lodging and meals) paid for by either the Synodical Board or Conference. She will be a non-voting member at the convention, will attend the First Timers Orientation, and will be seated with the other First Timer Guests during the convention. It is hoped that the sponsored First Timer Guest will return as a delegate to following years' conventions.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Congregational Unit President:

Complete no more than two (2) Nomination Forms and mail to your Conference Coordinator **no later than April 10, 2019**. The order in which nominations are received will be a factor in the selection decision. The Synodical Board will sponsor (pay for) one Young Woman Guest and one First Timer Guest from each conference. The Conference may sponsor additional persons as their funds permit.

Conference Coordinator:

1. Ask for vote at the Fall Conference Meeting how many nominees will be sponsored by your Conference. A sponsorship is approximately \$100.00.
2. After **April 17, 2019**, confer with your Officers and Board Conference Liaison to select the Board-sponsored nominees and, if applicable, the Conference-sponsored nominee(s). Alternate nominees should also be selected in the event the primary nominees are unable to attend the convention. Mark the method of payment on each sponsored nomination form (by Synodical Board or Conference). The Nomination Form will take the place of the Registration Form for the sponsored persons.
3. Notify each of the unit presidents and nominees of decisions made.

Nominee will be (check only one): ☐ Primary Nominee ☐ Alternate Nominee ☐ Not sponsored

Nominee will be sponsored by (check only one): ☐ Synodical Board ☐ Conference

NO LATER THAN April 24, 2019:

4. **Mail all of the completed forms to the Convention Registrar:** Sherry Sheppard, 128 S. Main St., Ste. 1, Summerville SC 29483
5. **Convention Chair/Synodical Vice President:** Mary Soltis, msoltis324@gmail.com or 803-727-3228 (c)
6. Notify Synodical Treasurer: Rachel Quesada, arachelq@gmail.com or 561-866-3011

NOTE: It is understood that the alternate nominee will be sponsored if the first nominee is unable to attend the convention.



South Carolina Women of the ELCA

Synodical Board 2018-2020

President

Becky Koch (exp 2020)
336 Nautical Way
Greenwood, SC 29649
864-344-1786 cell
beckykoch01@gmail.com

Vice President

Mary Soltis (exp 2019)
10738 Broad River Road
Irmo, SC 29063
803-727-3228
msoltis324@gmail.com

Secretary

Elsa Hope (exp 2019)
2952 Broad River Road
Pomaria, SC 29126
803-276-1988 hm
803-944-1744 cell
rmehope@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Rachel Quesada (exp 2020)
520 Timber Lane
Anderson, SC 29621
864-226-8546 hm
561-866-3011 cell
arachelq@gmail.com

Board Members

Amanda Boatwright (exp 2020)
423 Martin Drive
Leesville, SC 29070
803-317-6170
msangelwingschurchchick@yahoo.com

Sarah Cheesman (exp 2019)
122 Spinnaker Pointe
Leesville SC 29070
803-332-6825 hm
803-528-0797 cell
Sarah.cheesman@yahoo.com

Rae F. Davis (exp 2020)
812 Willow Cove Road
Chapin, SC 29036
803-360-4968
rdvs297@gmail.com

Gwendolyn Furcron (exp 2019)
149 Elkhorn Lane
Columbia, SC 29229
216-659-5754 cell
gfurcron1946@yahoo.com

Merri Lewis (exp 2019)
2029 Cedarbrook Dr.
Columbia, SC 29212
803-732-5429 hm
803-445-9989 cell
lewismmerri@yahoo.com

Dianne Lominick (exp 2019)
5407 S Hwy 34
Pomaria, SC 29126
803-276-2037 hm
803-271-8504 cell
Dianne.lominick@icloud.com

Amanda Marie Sease-Baker
(exp 2020)
233 Farmington Ct.
Lexington, SC 29072
803-520-4323
manda4ever25@gmail.com

Kristin Snelgrove (exp 2020)
912 Riverwalk Drive
Irmo, SC 29063
803-629-2287
ksnelgrove2005@yahoo.com

Non-Board Positions

SC WELCA Retreats

Sallie Folk & Agnes Folk
422 W. Pine Street
Florence, SC 29501
843-307-1417 (Sallie)
843-662-1210 (Agnes)
aebfolk@yahoo.com
salstitcher823@yahoo.com

Honorary Life/Memorial Recognition Coordinator

Virginia Herlong
813 Silver Point Road
Chapin, SC 29036
803-932-0155 hm
803-206-2493 cell
vherlong@sc.rr.com

Ripple Editor/Circ. Mgr.

Sherry Fowler
2931 Glenarden Drive
Charleston, SC 29414
843-442-3593 cell
shf.welca@gmail.com



Sherry Fowler

The Ripple

The Ripple is published four times per year. It is normally mailed to the churches for distribution to congregational unit presidents and pastors at no charge, as well as to the church-wide office. It is distributed to other subscribers at an annual subscription rate of \$7 annually or **e-mailed for free to anyone.** *The Ripple* is published under the auspices of the Mission: Community Committee of SC Women of the ELCA.

To submit material for publication, contact *The Ripple* Editor, Sherry Fowler at (shf.welca@gmail.com).

Subscribe to the Ripple

Complete the information below and send to
Sherry Fowler, Ripple Editor/Circulation Manager

2931 Glenarden Drive, Charleston, SC 29414

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PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION BELOW.

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Address _____

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Church & City _____

Phone _____

Email _____



South Carolina Women of the ELCA
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Expanding the Circle of SC Women of the ELCA

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

March 31	Deadline - Nominations (Secretary/Board/Triennial Voting Members)
April 10	Deadline - Nominations - YWG/FTG to Conference Coordinator
April 24	Deadline – YWG/FTG Names to Registrar/Convention Chair
April 26-28	Isle of Palms retreat at Coastal Retreat Center
May 1	Deadline - Voting Member Registration forms to Registrar
May 15	Deadline – No Refunds for Delegate/Visitor Registrations
May 30	Deadline – Visitor Registrations to Registrar
June 7-8	SC WELCA Convention at St. Stephen's, Lexington

STAY CONNECTED

There are so many ways that Women of the ELCA can stay connected;

Daily Grace, Gather magazine, Interchange,

Café, Bold Connections

The Ripple

**All of these publications may be accessed from our SC WELCA website—
www.scwelca.com.**

Join us on our Facebook group - *SC Women of the ELCA*